

SENATE BILL 470

By Watson

AN ACT to name a bridge spanning Interstate 75 on U.S. Highway 41/U.S. Highway 76 in Hamilton County in honor of the late Representative Jack Sharp.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should permanently commemorate the accomplishments of those statesmen who served this State with the greatest acumen and dedication during their lifetimes; and

WHEREAS, the late Representative Jack Sharp of East Ridge was a well-rounded gentleman who served astutely in the diverse worlds of business, politics, and government; and

WHEREAS, Jack Sharp served the good people of the 30th House District and Hamilton County for six terms (99th through 104th General Assemblies) as a member of the House of Representatives, always working with purpose and conviction to establish a brighter future for his fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, the very epitome of the humble Christian gentleman, he never sought the spotlight for himself, but rather worked quietly and effectively out of the glare of state and local politics to the great benefit of his constituents and indeed, the entire State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a gentleman who had earned the universal respect of both his colleagues and all other people involved in the legislative process, Representative Sharp eschewed the gridlock of partisan politics and worked alongside members of both parties to make Tennessee a better place to live, work, and raise a family; and

WHEREAS, throughout all his endeavors in various arenas of public and private life, he was a man of integrity who said what he meant and stood by his convictions; and

WHEREAS, Jack Sharp enjoyed a productive tenure as the Mayor of East Ridge, in which capacity he helped the city make the transition to the council form of government; and

WHEREAS, Representative Sharp was truly a man of the people; he was as friendly to and respectful of his constituents and legislative staff as he was of his colleagues, and his commitment to the health and prosperity of his fellow citizens was truly exemplary; and

WHEREAS, it is most fitting that a certain bridge on Hamilton County should bear his name to permanently honor Jack Sharp's bountiful life of purpose and commitment to the greater good; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the bridge spanning Interstate 75 (at Exit 1) on U.S. Highway 41/U.S. Highway 76 in Hamilton County is hereby designated the "Jack Sharp Memorial Bridge" in tribute to an excellent public servant and even finer human being.

SECTION 2. The department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating the bridge described in Section 1 as the "Jack Sharp Memorial Bridge".

SECTION 3. The erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.